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Immunization Program Update

Date: November 30, 2011
To: Pediatric Vaccine Providers
From: Patricia Raymond, RN, MPH
Subject: HPV Vaccine Recommended for Routine Use in Males

On October 25, 2011, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to change their recommendation for HPV4 (Gardasil; Merck) vaccination of males at 11-12 years of age from permissive to routine.

The purpose of this notice is to inform providers that routine vaccination with HPV4 vaccine is the standard for both males and females at 11-12 years of age. The new recommendations for males are reflected in Rhode Island's [Pediatric Vaccine Policy](#).

HPV4 Vaccination Schedule:

- *Routine Vaccination:* Give 3 doses of HPV4 beginning at 11-12 years; the second dose should be administered 1 to 2 months after the first dose and the third dose should be administered 6 months after the first dose.
- *Catch-up vaccination:* Give HPV4 vaccine to females and males 13-18 years of age who have not been previously vaccinated or who have not completed the full series.
- *Interrupted vaccination schedule:* If the vaccine schedule is interrupted the vaccine series does not need to be restarted. If the series is interrupted after the first dose, the second dose should be administered as soon as possible, and the second and third doses should be separated by an interval of at least 12 weeks with a minimum interval of 24 weeks between the first and third doses. If only the third dose is delayed, it should be administered as soon as possible.
- *Dosage Intervals:* The minimum interval between the first and second doses of vaccine is 4 weeks and the minimum recommended interval between the second and third dose of vaccine is 12 weeks. The minimum interval between the first and third dose is 24 weeks. Inadequate doses of HPV vaccine or vaccine doses received after a shorter-than-recommended dosing interval should be repeated.
- Eligible females and males as young as 9 years old may be vaccinated.

For more information on HPV4 vaccine refer to:

- ACIP recommendations: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5602a1.htm>
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5920a5.htm?s_cid=mm5920a5_e
- Package insert: <http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM093833>

Old HPV Policy Updates

HPV Vaccine Availability for Males ([July 2, 2010](#))

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has provided a “permissive” recommendation that the quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV4-Gardasil) may be given to males aged nine through 26 years to reduce the likelihood of acquiring genital warts and that HPV4 vaccine is most effective when given before exposure to HPV through sexual contact. The recommendations were published in CDC’s Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) on May 28, 2010 and are available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/news/news-pubs.htm

Permissive vs. Routine Vaccine Recommendations ([July 2, 2010](#))

According to ACIP, a “permissive” vaccine recommendation implies that vaccine should either be provided upon parental request or proactively offered during office visits. In contrast, a “routine” vaccine recommendation means that vaccine should be proactively provided as the standard of care. At this time, the ACIP does not recommend HPV4 for routine use in males or as part of a vaccine “catch-up” campaign.

Ordering HPV Vaccine for Males ([July 2, 2010](#))

In response to ACIP guidelines, HEALTH will begin supplying HPV4 vaccine for permissive use in males nine through 18 years of age in July through our universal state-supplied vaccine program. Providers may begin ordering with their next vaccine orders. Please edit your "Par Stock" accordingly on your monthly order form. Note: United Healthcare’s vaccine policy does not cover permissive vaccine recommendations. Therefore, although the vaccine will be provided at no cost to providers by the state, United Healthcare will not reimburse for the administration fee. HEALTH is working with the Rhode Island Cancer Coalition’s prevention workgroup to develop a statewide educational campaign to raise awareness among the public about human papillomavirus and the HPV vaccine.

HPV ([August 24, 2007](#))

On June 29, 2006, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issued recommendations for use of HPV vaccine for the prevention of human papillomavirus and cervical cancer in females. HPV vaccine is licensed for females 9-26 years of age. State-supplied vaccine is available for routine vaccination at 11-12 years of age and catch-up vaccination for females 13-18 years of age. ACIP Recommendations for HPV can be found at: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5602a1.htm?s_cid=rr5602a1_e

HPV Vaccine Update ([August 11, 2006](#))

The ACIP has issued recommendations for the newly licensed human papillomavirus virus (HPV) vaccine. The vaccine is given in a series of three injections over a six-month period and is recommended for routine vaccination of girls at 11-12 years of age. The ACIP recommendation also allows for vaccination of girls as early as nine years old as well as vaccination of girls and women 13-26 years old. The Immunization Program is in the process of working with CDC to make this vaccine available through the SSV Program and will notify providers when it is available to order. For more information about HPV vaccine go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vaccine/hpv/default.htm>